

In The Claims

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) A method for processing kernels of grain in a mill stream to produce a desired end product comprising the steps of:

cleaning the kernels of grain;

breaking the kernels of grain into two or more parts;

separating the parts according to selected size classes wherein at least one separation step occurs directly after each breaking step;

removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream directly from each separation step.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The method as described in claim 5 wherein the grain is corn.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 further comprising the steps of:

diverting one or more of the remaining size classes to a germ oil recovery process;

diverting one or more of the remaining size classes of grain to an aspirator and aspirating said size class of grain;

diverting the aspirated grain to a roller.

11. (Previously Presented) A method for processing kernels of grain in a mill stream to produce a desired end product comprising the steps of:

cleaning the kernels of grain;

degerminating the cleaned kernels of grain;

separating the degerminated kernels of grain into selected size classes using at least two separation steps wherein the first separation step occurs directly after degermination;

breaking the grain further using break rollers in-between separation steps;

removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream directly from each separation step;

diverting the remaining size classes to one or more other locations.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 11 wherein the grain is corn.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 5 wherein two of the size classes removed from the mill stream after the first separation step are flour and meal.

15. (New) A method for processing kernels of corn in a mill stream to produce a desired end product comprising the steps of:

cleaning the kernels of corn;

degerminating the cleaned kernels of corn;

separating the parts according to selected size classes in a first separation step wherein the first separation step occurs immediately after degermination;

removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream as the desired end product directly from the first separation step;

diverting at least one of the remaining size classes from the first separation step to a first break roller having predetermined roller settings which breaks that size class into two or more parts, separating the parts according to size class in a second separation step immediately after they pass through the first break roller, removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream directly from the second separation step, directing the remaining size classes to one or more other locations;

diverting at least one of the remaining size classes from the first separation step to a second break roller having predetermined roller settings which breaks that size class into two or more parts, separating the parts according to size class in a third separation step immediately after they pass through the second break roller, removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream directly from the third separation step, directing the remaining size classes to one or more other locations; and

diverting at least one of the remaining size classes from the first separation step to a third break roller having predetermined roller settings which breaks that size class into two or more parts, separating the parts according to size class in a fourth separation step immediately after they pass through the third break roller, removing at least one of said size classes from the mill stream directly from the fourth separation step, directing the remaining size classes to one or more other locations.

16. (New) The method of Claim 15 wherein two of the size classes removed from the mill stream after the first, second, third, and fourth, separation steps are flour and meal.

17. (New) The method of Claim 15 wherein the first and third break roller steps comprise rollers having different roller settings.

18. (New) The method of Claim 15 wherein at least one of the remaining size classes after the second separation step is directed to the second break roller and at least one of the remaining size classes after the second separation step is directed to the third break roller; and

at least one of the remaining size classes after the third separation step is directed to the third break roller.

19. (New) The method of Claim 15 wherein the first and second break roller steps comprise rollers having the same roller settings.